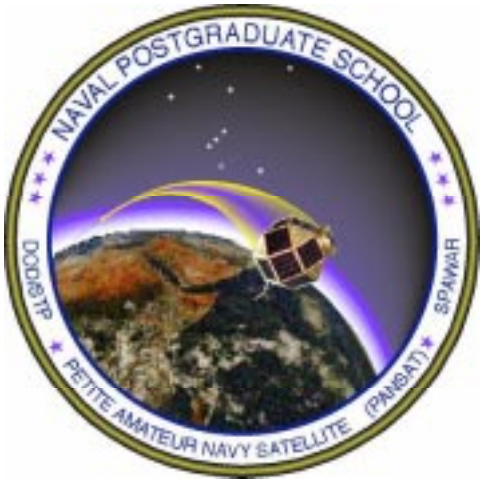
PANSAT Functional Testing Software and Support Hardware



PANSAT Functional Testing Software and Hardware

- Introduction
- Support for Prototyping
- Electronic Modules Architecture
- Prototype Hardware and Software
- Spacecraft Hardware and Software
- Spacecraft Integration
- Conclusion

Introduction

- Designed and built at NPS
- Required easy functional testing
- Used COTS equipment to build the digital hardware interface prototypes
- Reused software test components
- Used simple support hardware

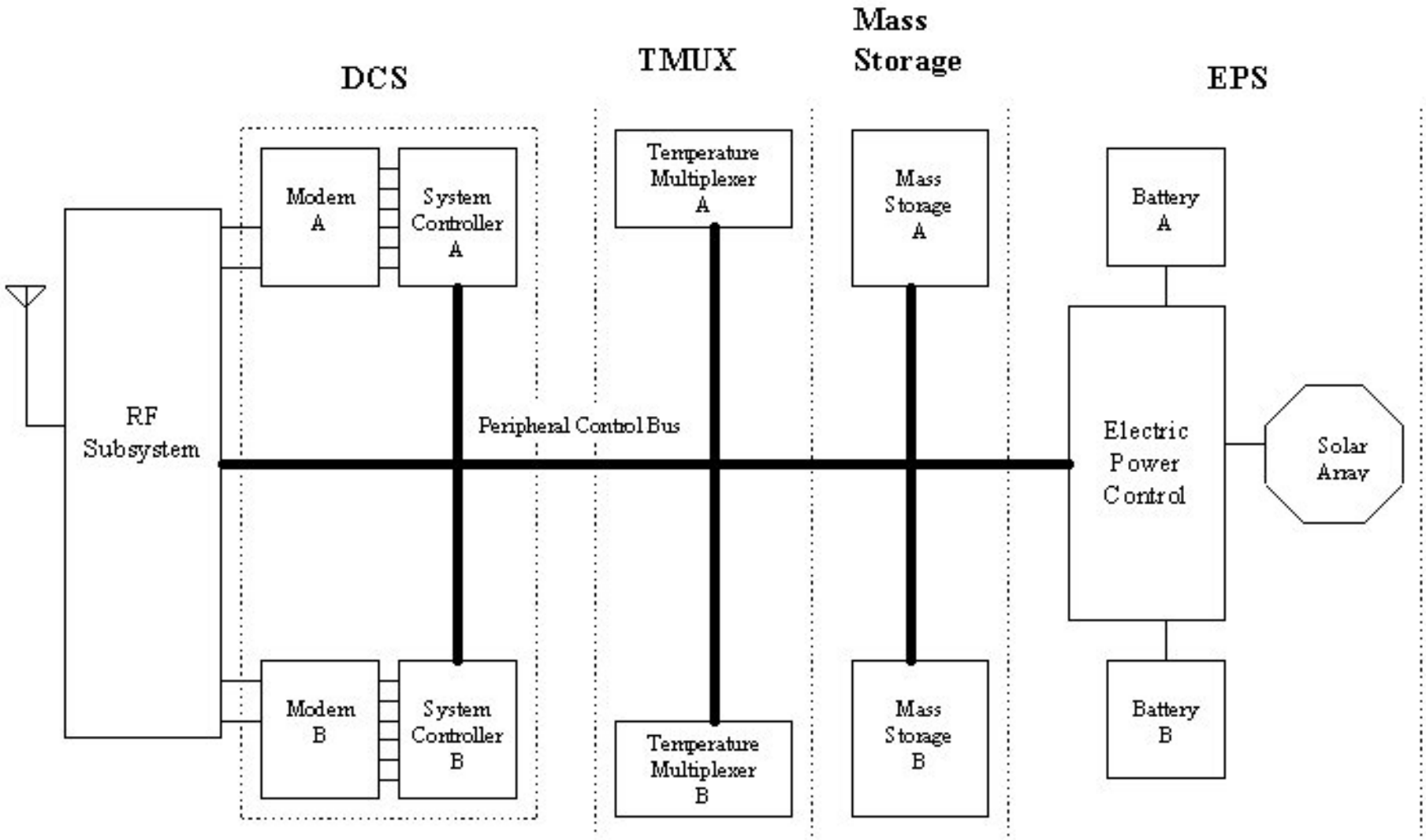
Support Equipment for Development

- PC:
  - IEEE-488 (GPIB) interface card
  - National Instrument's ATMIO-16
    - multiple analog inputs
    - 4 programmable digital lines
  - National Instrument's LabVIEW® for programming
- Programmable Power Supply (HP 6653A)
  - connected to the GPIB
- Programmable Load (HP 6060A)
  - connected to the GPIB
- In-circuit Emulator
  - supported embedded software development

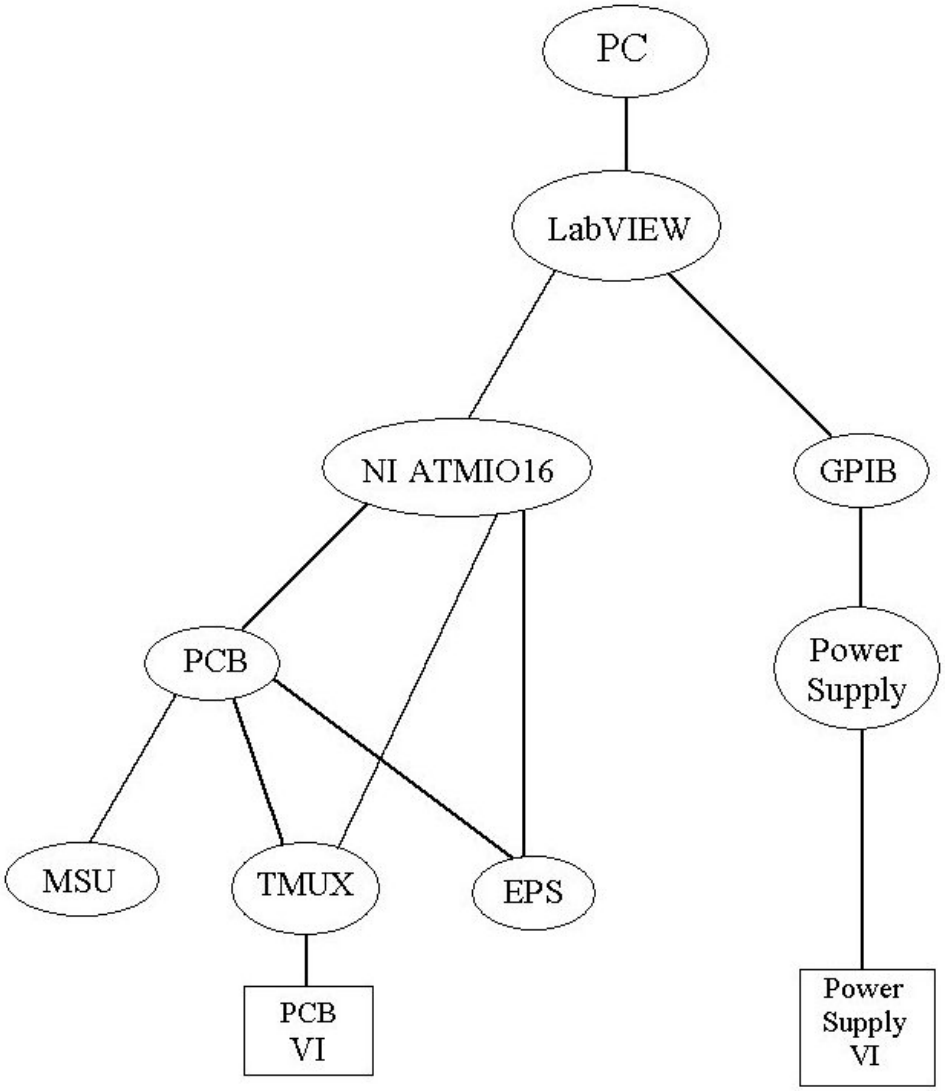
Software Tool for Prototyping

- LabVIEW
  - Provided graphical programming in the form of block diagrams
  - Learned quickly and easily
  - Offered sophisticated graphical user interfaces with no programming
  - Allowed simple translation from engineer's concept to program
  - Simplified the porting of the prototype software to the embedded system of the spacecraft flight hardware

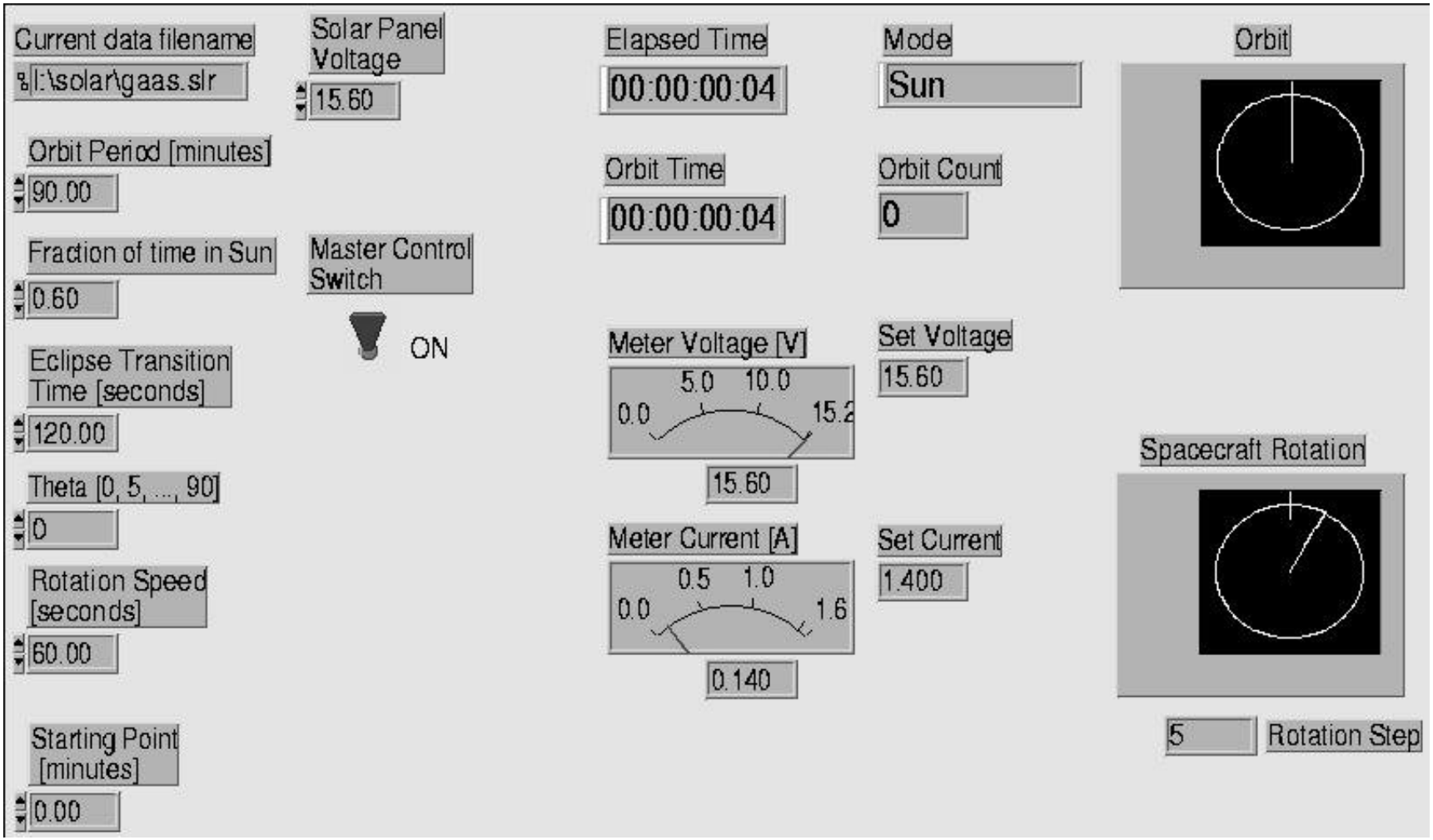
Electronic Modules Architecture



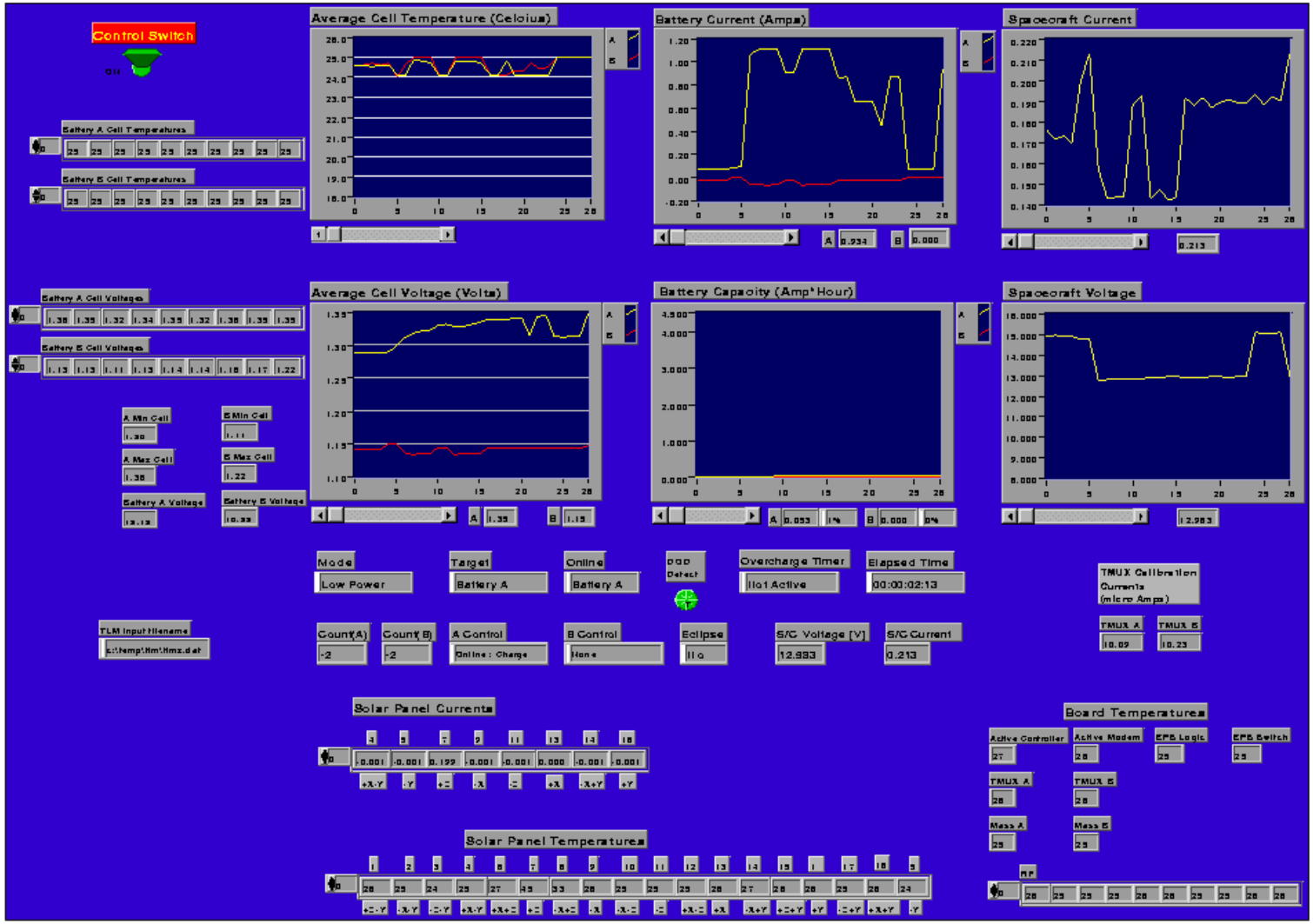
Prototype Support Hierarchy



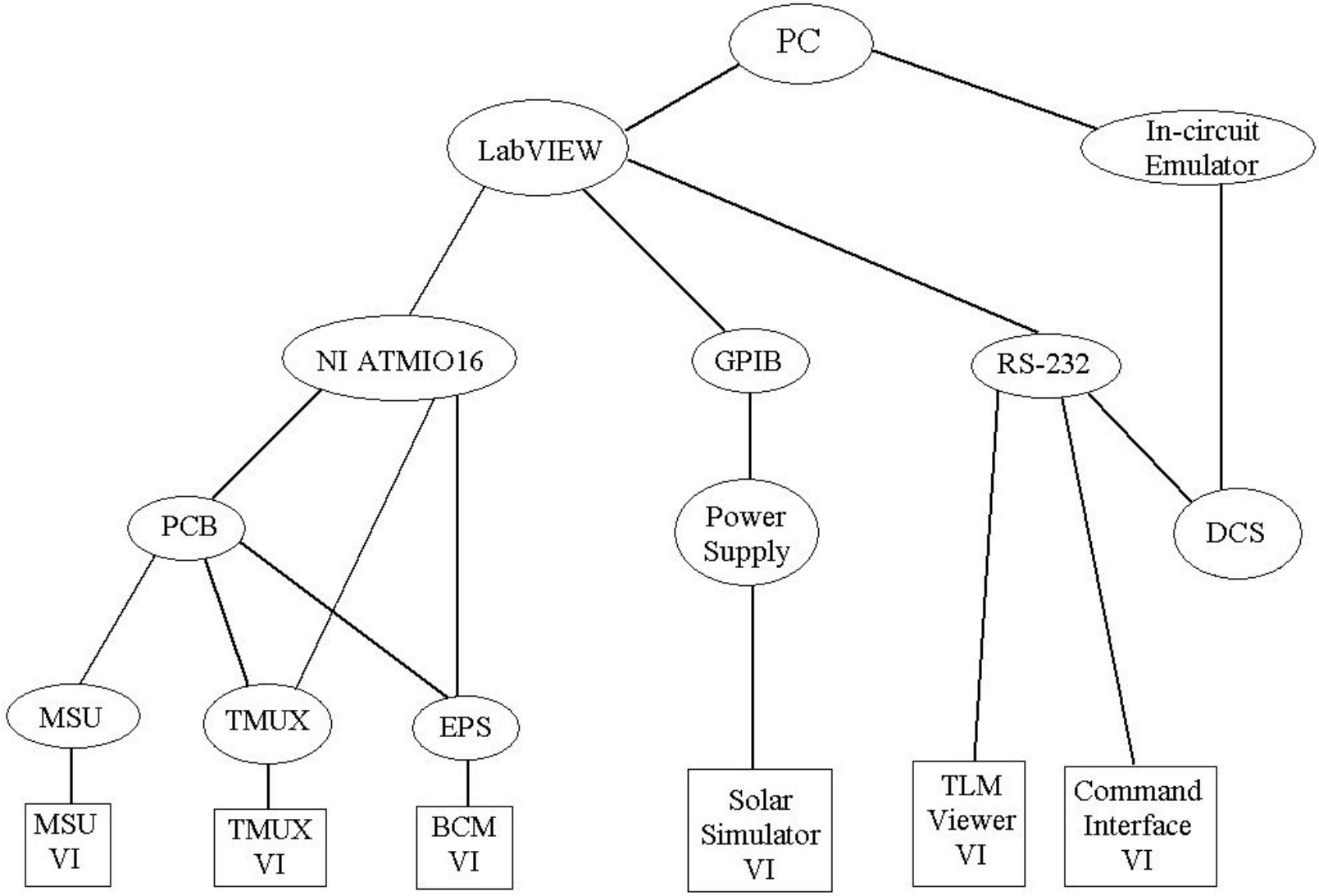
Solar Simulator VI



Monitor VI


Control Switch
Battery A Cell Temperatures
Battery B Cell Temperatures
Average Cell Temperature (Celcius)
Battery Current (Amps)
Spacecraft Current
Battery A Cell Voltages
Battery B Cell Voltages
Average Cell Voltage (Volts)
Battery Capacity (Amp*Hour)
Spacecraft Voltage
A Min Cell
B Min Cell
A Max Cell
B Max Cell
Battery A Voltage
Battery B Voltage
Mode
Low Power
Target
Battery A
Online
Battery A
Overcharge Timer
Elapsed Time
00:00:02:13
TMUX Calibration Currents (micro Amps)
TMUX A
TMUX B
TLM Input Filename
Count(A)
Count(B)
A Control
B Control
None
Eclipse
S/C Voltage [V]
12.983
S/C Current
0.213
Solar Panel Currents
Solar Panel Temperatures
Board Temperatures
Active Controller
Active Modem
EPS Logic
EPS Switch
TMUX A
TMUX B
Mass A
Mass B

Battery Charge Monitor Support Hierarchy



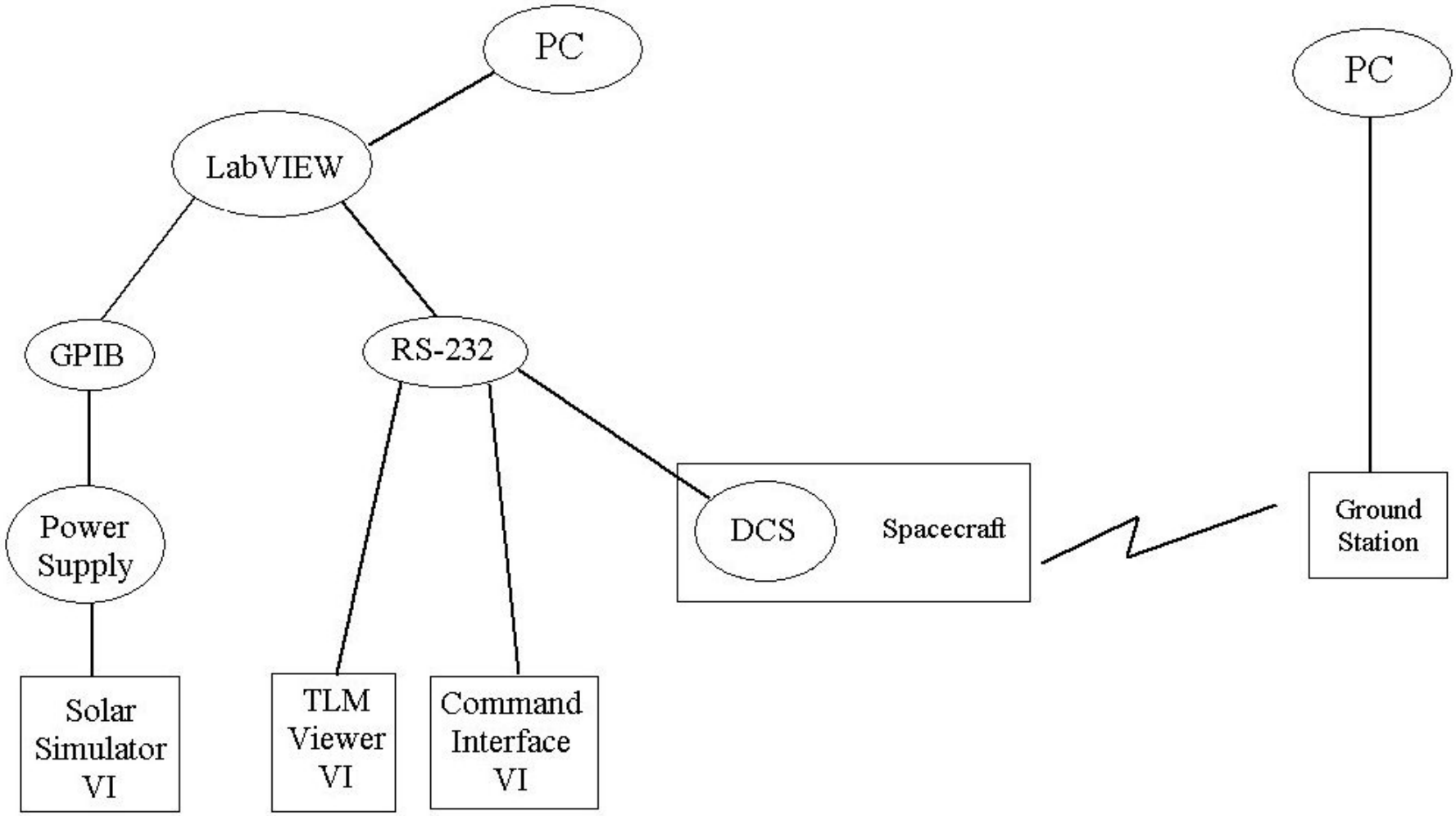
Migration to Spacecraft Embedded Computer

- Ported algorithms developed in LabVIEW to C
- Used RS-232 port on embedded system to PC
  - Provided command/control
  - Provided data dumping
- Removed use of A/D conversion on PC
  - Required embedded system to perform A/D
- Modified use of individual VIs for subsystem control
  - Granted the embedded system control of the spacecraft
  - Allowed VIs to send commands to spacecraft
- Created Monitor VI to allow complete viewing of spacecraft systems using data sent across the RS-232 port

Spacecraft Integration

- Support Hardware
  - Two laptop PCs
  - HP 6653A DC programmable power supply
  - Brief-case sized RF/Modem unit
- Support Software
  - Spacecraft Test Port Interface using RS-232 port
  - Command/Control Interface program
  - LabVIEW Monitor VI

Integration Support Hierarchy



Integration Tests

- Performed a suite of automated tests after each test
  - Checked spacecraft computer
  - Powered on and check subsystems and interfaces
  - Performed EPS check
    - Toggled all switches
    - Monitored all measurements
  - Performed a moving ones write/read on Mass Storage
  - Monitored TMUX measurements
  - Tested all eight Communication states with brief-case sized Modem/RF unit in low power mode
- Archived all test results (command log, graphs, data dumps) to disk

Conclusion

- PANSAT launched aboard the STS-95 *Discovery*
- PANSAT contacted daily via NPS ground station
- Testing, integrating, and operating an autonomous spacecraft can be accomplished with reusable modules using:
  - Low cost support equipment (power supply, load)
  - Low cost PCs
  - LabVIEW
  - Custom programming
- Further development of spacecraft can be performed using this simple model